

• Asianews selects 'DB idols of change' / **TALK OF THE TOWN** • Best foot forward: Henry Ky, shoe salesman turned retail tycoon turned RP's richest man, reveals business survival secrets in time of crisis • How a pig in Panganga captured my heart / **SUNDAY INQUIRER MAGAZINE** • Possible Golden Globe night for Ledger, Streep, Winslet • Drunken actor outs costars; drama hunk torn between—get this—3 gays and prominent, too / **ENTERTAINMENT** • Tetta Agustin, the Pinay model who made the glum Yves Saint Laurent laugh / **SUNDAY LIFESTYLE**

# PHILIPPINE INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS. FEARLESS VIEWS



**THE MAGIC OF MOONLIGHT** The first month of the new year is off to a good start on Saturday night with a full moon that is 7 p.m. is 14 percent bigger and 10 percent brighter than usual, according to the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration. It's the biggest and brightest moon of the year. Astronomers call the point of closest approach to earth "perigee" where the moon would be this weekend. The world watched a perigee full moon only last December. Which means the year ended and started back in the magic of moonlight.

## Ouster move vs Puno on

### SC chief accused of sitting on solon's disqualification

"WE HAVE HEARD OF THE OUSTER MOVES, BUT WE DON'T know where they are coming from."

This was what Supreme Court spokesperson Midas Marquez said yesterday when contacted for comment on talk that Chief Justice Reynato Puno was the subject of an ouster move.

But when asked if there was such a move, Marquez said: "No, there is."

The talk is that Puno is in danger of being impeached by Congress over the reported acquittal of a gov-

ernment ex-conviction of the Supreme Court dated July 15, 2008, upholding the disqualification of former General Rep. Jacobo Limbichong.

Asked what could possibly consti-

tute grounds to impeach the Chief Justice, Marquez made reference to the Limbichong case.

He said Puno was "accused of sitting on that case and of not presiding the decision despite the signature of 14 other justices."

Marquez said the accusation was "totally baseless." He said the high court had already issued a resolution saying that it was not Puno but the high court on banc who had decided

that the ruling "should not be promulgated because it was still being deliberated upon."

Limbichong had lodged a petition in the high court seeking a ruling by the Commission on Elections favoring Olivia Puno, the wife of former Negros Oriental Rep. Jacobo "Zig" Puno, who placed second to Limbichong in the 2007 polls.

But in a resolution written by Associate Justice

OLIVERA

## Feeding the President: Filipina stays on as White House top chef

WASHINGTON—THE WHITE HOUSE IS SURE TO GET a makeover when the family of incoming US President Barack Obama arrives, but one thing won't change: the White House diet.

Cristina Conzardi, who made the annals of gastronomic history when she became the first woman—also the first minority and first Filipino-American—to head the White House kitchen, will cook for the Obamas, after they decided to keep her busy at the presidential mansion.

"Cristina Conzardi brings such incredible talent to the White House operation and came very highly regarded from the [President George W.] Bush family," said Michelle Obama, who moved into 1600 Pennsylvania with her husband and two daughters on Jan. 20.

"I look forward to working with her in the years to come," she added in a statement released by the Obama transition team.

Michelle Obama said she appreciated Conzardi's "shared perspective on the importance of healthy eating and healthy families."

Conzardi, who was born Cristina Gomez Pardo in the Philippines in 1962 and later became a naturalized US citizen, was promoted by First Lady Laura Bush in August 2005 after the departure of chef Walter Rizzo, a few months before his term Conzardi had worked in the White House kitchen for 13 years.

"After working for me, she learned in every bite of her delicious creations," Laura Bush said at the time.

Conzardi, who was working as one of two deputies under Rizzo, was chosen by Laura Bush from hundreds of applicants after Rizzo left in 2005 reportedly because he could not adapt to the culinary demands of the first lady.

Rizzo, who specializes in American cuisine and

FEEDING



**GASTRONOMICAL HISTORY** Cristina Conzardi is first minority, first woman, first Pil-Am White House executive chef.

## Golden Globe: Who sits where in Hollywood's biggest party

By Ruben V. Nolasco  
Correspondent

(The author is the first Filipino member as well as the first Filipino voting member of the Hollywood Foreign Press Association. Read his related column on the Golden Globe in the Entertainment section.)

LOS ANGELES—HOLLYWOOD'S 1,500 jack glamorists, award lusty around tables decked with champagne bottles and exotic flowers, during the 66th Annual Golden Globe Awards Sunday night (Monday evening, March 9) watched by millions in more than 160 countries.

What viewers do not see are the weeks of preparation, a period of dance and drama that began, before the telecast, gathering that is repeated and Hollywood's party of the year takes place at the International Ballroom of the Beverly Hilton.

Having helped in the making of a network's rise de la rive for several years now, we, the members of the Hollywood Foreign Press Association that pass on the annual awards show, marvel at how, despite the heavily complicated task of considering Hollywood's ego and politics in deciding who sits where, it ultimately works out one glittery evening.

GLOBE



**HEARTSTRINGS** Guagua craftsmen are back in business making guitars that tickle or cry with a song in their strings.

## RJ rocks for guitar makers of Panganga

By Vol. Cantavos

LIKE MANY HOMEGROWN VENTURES undermined by globalization, the decades-old guitar-making industry of Guagua, Panganga, greatly weeps.

Craftsmen, particularly in Barangay San Antonio, home to the town's oldest workshops, have been losing their market mainly to cheap Chinese imports since 2003. And dwindling job orders have driven hundreds of artisans out of work and into back-breaking toil as subsistence fishermen, farm hands, or construction workers.

But an initiative made late last year by a popular Manila-based musician and businessman aims to strike a hopeful chord for Guagua's struggling, if not dying, trade.

A company headed by Itamar "RJ"

ROCKS

## Obama ma-in-law Mrs. Robinson goes to Washington

WASHINGTON—HERE'S GOOD NEWS FOR LATE-night television comics and the president's daughter, Malia and Sasha.

President-elect Barack Obama's mother-in-law, Marian Robinson, is moving into the White House, at least temporarily to join Michelle Obama and the first

OBAMA

## Not just a name, Rosebud turns to tango

By Fe Zancos

IS THERE LIFE AFTER ROSEBUD?

Former cartoonist agent turned white-blower Mary "Rosebud" Ong says there is and shows up wearing a ruff, black mini-skirt to prove it.

Clicking across the dance floor at the Black Bird Dance Bar and Pizzeria at Greenbelt Commercial Center in San Juan, Ong does a strutting routine of

the annual Argentine tango, with deb levents and that body movement.

Dancing the tango Argentine tango, she says, gives her relief from stress. It has given her a face-5 frame of excess fat. People have started to see her as a person, beyond "being simply Rosebud," she says.

"Financial brought me a little home, a little sense of self. But people don't really remember when The Oscar is

being about me," Ong says during a recent interview.

She says "While here as a woman, whenever it is you call it," she says, "I just try to enjoy it. I just look for opportunities for financial advancement. I want to be."

Last April, Ong decided to do something she really liked. She glided back to the dance floor where she first met

ROSEBUD







# Chinese studies who survived quake coming

ONE THOUSAND SCHOOLS CHILDREN who survived the disaster May 12, 2008, earthquake in Sichuan, China, are coming tonight for a one-day visit "to give them a respite."

The visit to the Philippines' usual way of helping Chinese survivors is to scholarship program for students, parents, and teachers to a summer.

The 7.9 magnitude quake that hit the province killed 70,000 people—among them were 30,000 schoolchildren—who died when their schools collapsed—and left 18,000 missing.

President Macapagal-Arroyo, who visited China in August 2008, invited the school children to visit the Philippines

through Chinese President Hu Jintao.

The students, accompanied by 20 teachers, will be taken on an educational tour of Manila through to such places as Museo Pambata, Balara Heritage Center, SM Science Discovery

Center, Chinese High School and Rizal National High School.

The children will also visit Davao, where they will get a close-up view of the country, one of the world's fastest growing.

By the press

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# 19 Filipino seamen freed by Somali pirates

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By Cynthia D. Salinas

SOMALI PIRATES HAVE FREED 19 FILIPINO SEAMEN FOLLOWING THE release of the oil tanker *Seabird*, reportedly after 36 days in captivity, a Department of Foreign Affairs official said yesterday.

Speaking on Vice President Teo's radio program, "Pera Sa Iyo, Bayan," Foreign Undersecretary Romeo Corpuz said all of the seamen were in good health. The oil tanker was taken by the pirates on Nov. 23 last year.

Corpuz said 71 Filipino seamen in five other ships were still in the hands of pirates. He said that since April 4, 2008, a total of 238 Filipino seamen had been seized by pirates in the Gulf of Aden, one of the busiest shipping lanes in the world leading to and

from the Suez Canal. About 127 of them have been freed.

Corpuz said the DFA was working for the return to the Philippines of the *Seabird* seamen. His ship is now traveling to "safe waters."

An Associated Press report from Indianapolis, Somalia, said the oil tanker was released after the pirates received \$2 million in ransom, although the ship, owner, *Shahin* International Marine Ltd., did not confirm it. Also story in *The World*, page A08.

### Biggest moneymaker

The brand new Italian two-ton hijacked tanker ship 600 kilometers southeast of Mombasa, Kenya.

Italy is considered the biggest moneymaker in Somalia, a country that has had no stable government for decades.

A report issued by the London-based

think tank Chatham House said Somali piracy raked in more than \$30 million in 2008.

The pirates are often dressed in military fatigues, and use sophisticated equipment with satellite phones and GPS devices. They are typically armed with automatic weapons, anti-aircraft rocket launchers and various types of weapons, further out to sea, their speedboats separate from large mother ships.

The United States and other nations have international authority in both waters in the open sea and come to the aid of vessels under attack that they believe have been captured at their expense or ships under pirate control, having on all-out assault could endanger crew members held hostage on board.



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## 91 Pinoys in Gaza awaiting rescue, says foreign office

By Robert C. Tumbay Jr. and Cynthia Salinas

THEIR ARE STILL 91 FILIPINO SEAMEN to be evacuated from near Gaza, most from the children of Palestinian laborers, according to Foreign Undersecretary Romeo Corpuz.

These Filipino seamen were taken to Lebanon and their children arrived in the Philippines on Friday while a Filipino man volunteered to remain in Israel.

Corpuz said yesterday the children's "situation is not satisfactory," he said, adding that some of them did not speak Filipino.

"But for our government, they continue to be Filipino citizens," Corpuz added.

The government managed to bring 17 Filipinos out of Gaza after three attempts. "We are waiting for another opening—so far it does not look like a full release," he said.

"It has been very difficult just getting out the first batch. It took six days to get them out," he said.

Corpuz said there were no Filipino workers in Gaza.

"We already gave (Filipinos) and their families in Gaza a warning in early in November 2005," he added.

He also mentioned that 47 Filipinos working illegally in Lebanon had returned to the country Friday night.

The Department of Foreign Affairs had expressed concern about the condition of the estimated 30,000 Filipinos—mostly undocumented workers—in Lebanon, where unions had filed orders on board after the last's two-week conflict with Hamas.

Following the battle between Israel and Hezbollah in Lebanon in 2006, the govern-

ment had banned travel to Lebanon, Corpuz said.

"We have no ill will here," he said, adding that despite the ban, nearly all the estimated 30,000 Filipinos in Lebanon were undocumented workers.

Vice President Teo's office yesterday expressed assistance to the 47 Filipino workers who returned from Lebanon who were reportedly victimized by illegal recruitment and abused by their employers.

Speaking over the radio program, "Pera Sa Iyo, Bayan," Teo Corpuz said he had at least five similar incidents and jobs in the group after learning that their respective employers approved in Lebanon did not pay their full salaries.

"I feel really sorry for our seamen. It's not easy. We want to help them recover from their mistakes by sending them to our jobs training program," said the Corpuz, who is presidential adviser on overseas Filipino workers and head of the Task Force Against Illegal Recruitment (TFAIR).

De Corpuz vowed to go after the employers who recruited (OFWs) and asked for the compensation of the victims.

"We hope the release of illegal workers will help recovery and help in protecting these vulnerable individuals," he said.

De Corpuz said Filipinos who wanted to work abroad should first check with the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) to verify the legal protocols of the recruiting agency.

He reminded the public of the government's ban on worker deployment to Lebanon, Iraq, Jordan, Egypt and Afghanistan.

## CALL FOR ENTRIES

### NATIONAL AWARDS FOR GOOD GOVERNANCE IN MEDICINES

Good governance and transparency are essential in improving access to essential medicines. The World Health Organization and the Department of Health, in collaboration with the Medicines Transparency Alliance (MeTA) Philippines, are drawing attention and participation from the public and private sector to institutionalize the concept of good governance and transparency in the registration, selection, procurement, use and management of medicines. The **National Awards for Good Governance in Medicines** will start to recognize innovative and exemplary programmes from both the public and private sector, and will create public awareness on the importance of good governance and transparency in improving access to essential medicines for all Filipinos.

CATEGORIES	DESCRIPTION
1. GGM Awards for Local Government Units (LGU)	1. Address issues to do with LGU, PHM and other government agencies, and other stakeholders and organizations from the private sector
2. GGM Awards for the Private Sector	2. Encouraged the establishment of a GGM Unit/Group
3. GGM Awards for the Public Sector	3. Encouraged the establishment of a GGM Unit/Group

### How to Participate:

Entry documents and guidelines for participation may be secured from [www.gov.ph/phgmmawards](http://www.gov.ph/phgmmawards) or from the contact address provided below. Entries must be submitted in sealed envelopes, and marked, "GGM Awards" not later than 30th January, 2009.

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# Ouster move vs Puno on

Page 1

an Justice Robert Reyes and subsequently adopted by 12 other justices except Puno, the high court upheld the Comptroller ruling.

Asked for comment regarding the proposed ouster move on Puno, Justice Puno denied knowledge of the matter.

A lawyer and a cousin of Mr. Arroyo's partner, the influential Mr. Manzano (Manzano), he also said he was not behind any impeachment move.

"The act means of any move to impeach the Chief Justice because I am only a justice," he said.

Lawmakers were by 7,334 also over Gloria Puno in the 2007 polls. The Chief Justice was Gloria Puno, after her husband's death, and she was a former member of the House of Representatives.

But a court insider said there was a "political" aspect on the move to impeach Puno.

"That's the plan," the insider said. "It's a reading to the public, but we don't think it will pass."

## Case 'worth studying'

Asked if the proposed impeachment resolution of the high court on the ouster move could have an impact on Puno, Justice Puno said: "That case for a moment, but the act means of an impeachment move. We have nothing to do with the impeachment move."

He said he was still considering the impeachment motion to ouster. "This is worth studying," he said.

Asked if he would support such a move, he said: "The act means of a move to impeach the Chief Justice because I am only a justice," he said.

Justice Puno denied knowledge of the matter.



PUNO: The subject is impeachment.

Justice Puno's proposed motion on the ouster of Puno, he said, would only be a political move. He said he was still considering the impeachment motion to ouster. "This is worth studying," he said.

Justice Puno denied knowledge of the matter.

what's going on, although I have read the resolution of the Supreme Court and the complaint against the Chief Justice. I am not a lawyer, but I am a citizen."

"But if it is true, they have already decided that they have a resolution to impeach the Chief Justice," he said.

Commenting on Justice Puno's motion, Justice Puno said: "That case for a moment, but the act means of an impeachment move. We have nothing to do with the impeachment move."

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runners going around" that Puno could be impeached.

The retired justice, who asked not to be named because of the sensitivity of the subject, said he had not seen documents but that it was a serious matter.

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THE PITTs are in the Pic, the best seats in the house.

## Golden Globe: Who sits where in Hollywood's biggest party

Page 2

Behind this happen, however, not much is known. It is a mix of the best seats in the house, the Golden Globe Awards, the most prestigious of the film industry, is a place where the stars of the film industry are seen in their most glamorous.

The work begins right after the Golden Globe Awards, the most prestigious of the film industry, is a place where the stars of the film industry are seen in their most glamorous.

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who had broken up with whom to their personalities will be seated in the first row from one another as possible. Given the intimate dimension of the ballroom, however, the tables are really not that far apart.

## Mail scramble

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STEVEN Spielberg enjoys his time in the Pic.



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## RJ rocks for guitar makers of Pampanga

Page 2

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# TALK TOWN

## idols of change (2)

Leo Salonga, 37  
Singer, Philippines

**M**ANY FILIPINOS ADMIT THAT there are few reasons to be proud of given the Philippines' bleak economic outlook and the seemingly hopeless political situation. It is not surprising that people look up to celebrities or sports heroes instead of their leaders. Stage actress-singer Leo Salonga is often cited as an "inspiration."

"It's nice to hear [someone] say it's about me," she says, referring to an entry in the Philippine Yearbook that says "the press is proud" after giving the lead role in the musical "Miss Saigon" in 1991. The yearbook, which celebrated 20 years of the Philippines, was published in 2006.

"Twenty years is a significant amount of time and it's sad to tell people you're proud of someone and to say that there are people who give us reasons to be proud," she tells *Asiatraveller*. Her first Philippine album, *My Love*, was released in 1991, the same year she landed her lead role in the stage adaptation of *Miss Saigon* in Manila, Hong Kong, Singapore, Beijing and Thailand. The Philippines led the standing ovation and shouted "Mahalaga ang Pilipinas!" (Long live the Philippines!).

"I'm proud that it's a role where you still reward, you really need more than just acceptance of me or anyone else," she says. When you say, "one person gave hope," it means that there must be an overwhelming amount of negativity for one's past of light to shine so bright. "Meaning there's no dark light," she says.

She believes that in order for the Philippines to grow as a nation, everyone has to do his or her share and not rely on the government.

"I'm not using this out of desperation, but, if it's not your turn to step in, a person stands in this country, try to fix it... It's about being your best self, taking care of other people around you, and not being the one-eyed and one-legged person," she says.

Although she admits being apolitical, Salonga



openly supports the reproductive health (RH) bill, which is being an uphill battle in the predominantly Catholic country because of the opposition from the Church.

"The RH bill is a common-sense bill... It's also giving dignity to the poor... allow them to have the free will to decide for themselves if they

want to use birth control or not... Right now, a lot of them feel very powerless because of their circumstances. So, to give them some power over their lives, over the decisions that they make, it's an empowering thing... One should think about the greater good first and this bill has the greater good in mind," Salonga says.



Jigme Khensar Wangchuck, 28  
King, Bhutan

**H**IS GRANDFATHER spent 18 years in the world; his father perished in independence.

Now, at 28, Jigme Khensar Wangchuck, who took on the title of Fourth Druk Gyalpo, has the task of leading the Buddhist kingdom of Bhutan, a tiny, mountainous Himalayan kingdom. With the first Druk Gyalpo and having arrived in 2008, he will probably find a sense of his purpose in leading his nation.

In taking his first steps into the new century and managing the demands of the democratic polity introduced by his father, the king's education will include also be a focus.

While raised in Buddhist culture, the king is very much a modern man. In his early years, he was educated with traditional Buddhist teachings, including Tibetan, Sanskrit and local dialects.

Later, he was sent to Philip Reade's school in London, in the United States, where he studied in Massachusetts and eventually Oxford University's St. Antony's College. He did a stint at New Delhi's National Defence College, connecting with India's elite, and ending his education with a degree in law.

People say the new king is very much like his father's son, inheriting some of his ancestor's charisma. "Even at 28, when you wear his crown, you get the feeling of being in the presence of someone much older," says a senior government official. "There is no doubt of the father's legacy."

**G**UI GUANYU, 30, LOST her father in the Sichuan earthquake that struck on May 12 last year. Five of her classmates also died in the disaster, but she and her six-year-old brother survived. Nothing is known of her mother.

Out one of the youngest volunteers who helped rescue victims amidst the ruins. She said she wanted to cheer up the "little friends."

The volunteer killed more than 200,000 people, death toll the extent of devastation in Sichuan that an entire town rose up on its feet, young and old and thousands of miles away.

Chinese leaders paid tribute to the brave of the disaster, soldiers, police officers, grassroots workers, teachers,

medical workers, journalists, construction workers and volunteers, among others, were honored at the Great Hall of the People.

Chinese President Hu Jintao called it a "great test of the Chinese people's will, courage and strength," especially since it happened three years before the Beijing Olympics.

There have been countless stories about selfless donors, officials leading in the quake-torn city of Beijing, some 50 km from Chengdu, to transport the injured on their own accord and line of change, of a 15-year-old boy, a 16-year-old girl, and a 17-year-old girl, leaving his family behind to help in the rebuilding efforts in Wenchuan county, Sichuan, of volunteers taking people in their homes, of volunteers traveling the aid and working through mountains on foot to bring water and food to the

time, of medical volunteers doing operations on site, and of pregnant teachers helping evacuate their students.

Indeed, volunteerism, especially among China's young generation—often described as spoiled and self-centered—has been revived.

But it would take government efforts to encourage the disaster area. More than the roads and the buildings, it is the lives that lie behind that need a whole lot of rebuilding.

Chen Wei, a 38-year-old Chengdu resident, was one of the first volunteers to enter two of the disaster zones during his one to three days rescue operations to their relatives and friends. He studied in a disaster relief camp more than 20 children and sleep only five of the 30 hours of three-day rescue operations. He was a part of, he said, he helped "because I am able."



Nazim Razak, 41  
Builder, Malaysia

**H**E IS SEEN AS ONE OF the clearest leaders in the region.

After becoming the head of CIMB Group in 1990, Razak has built a new premier investment bank and the second largest bank by assets in Malaysia. The former son of Malaysia's second prime minister Mahatma Razak Hussein and the youngest brother of Deputy Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim, he earned a degree in political science and economics from Oxford University and a master's in economics from Cambridge.

A former banker, he joined CIMB Investment Bank almost 20 years ago, rising through its executive ranks to become CEO in 1999.

His appointment, from former head of Citibank International into CIMB Group.

The buying spree included the 2002 purchase of Singapore-based Citibank (CIB) and a 2006 acquisition of 100 percent of Bank Rakyat Malaysia (BRI).

CIB Group is a product of Malaysia's banking consolidation that involved dozens of other financial institutions, including Bank Bumiputera Malaysia, Bank of Commerce and BRI.

Very early on, Razak had expanded the bank's range of services, including bank underwriting and secondary bond trading, promoting local companies. He was named to be held in his approach.

Razak's next mission is "to build a competitive regional financial institution that can be proud of" and to extend its assets outside his subsidiaries as he can.







# Across the NATION

Manila • The Department of Education (DepEd) is looking for a new National Artist for the Philippines. The artist is a Filipino who has made significant contributions to the country's culture and arts.

## Blast cuts power in Zamboanga Peninsula

**ZAMBOANGA CITY**—THE ENTIRE ZAMBOANGA Peninsula—including Zamboanga City—the province of Misamis Occidental and some portions of Lanao del Norte went without power early yesterday when a blast ripped a tower of the National Transmission Corp. (Transco) in Kauswagan, Lanao del Norte, a Transco official said.

According to Transco officials, the blast cut the power to at least five million people. Brigadier Arnelio Davis, manager of Transco's Lanao Division Office, said there of the blast involved explosive devices strapped onto the tower in Bantugay. Bantugay exploded at 2:30 a.m. and rattled the geyser.

Davis said the fourth blast, followed from an 41-mile-long overhead line, was also followed by an explosion on a transmission line.

Davis said Transco workers had to work clearance from the military first but later rebels in a community reportedly before seeking to restore power.

More Misamis Oriental (MOR) rebels are known to frequent the area.

Both Transco, head for responsible communication of Transco in northeastern Mindanao, and power was partially restored in some areas around 12:30 p.m. Although the cause of the upsurge problem was not identified.



**REUNION FESTIVAL**

Performers perform during the 10th Hingog Festival on Jan. 10 in the coastal city of Zamboanga. In the background, a group of people are seen performing.

## 6 dead as landslide buries home in North Samar

By Joy A. Sabido  
Special Report

**ZAMBOANGA CITY**—A WAVE OF SIX meters buried about a landslide that followed heavy rain in a coastal village in Samar, Samar Province, early yesterday.

The landslide, brought down by heavy rain, also injured two persons, according to Samar provincial police. Samar Province reported officials of the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Response (ODPR) said in a report.

According to the landslide in the coastal village of Oda was killed in Oda, 30, his wife Genelia, 30, and their four children: Oda, 5, Ben, 4, Carlo, 2, and Genelia, one year old. Oda was a member of the Samar Division of the Oda identified as Oda, 47, and Oda Oda.

Officials said the landslide occurred at the village of Oda, Samar Province, early yesterday.

The landslide occurred at the village of Oda, Samar Province, early yesterday.

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North, where people said it was the worst landslide in Samar's history.

The landslide occurred at the village of Oda, Samar Province, early yesterday.

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## Architect says SBMA gave mixed signals on casino

SBMA gave mixed signals on casino

SBMA gave mixed signals on casino

SBMA gave mixed signals on casino

SBMA gave mixed signals on casino

SBMA gave mixed signals on casino

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**JUDGEMENT IN THE FAR EAST**

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9 PM

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CS9

## Cebu firm asks SC to listen to oral pleadings on land case

By Norman Borlido

A FIRM ENGAGED IN AQUACULTURE has appealed to the Supreme Court to hear its arguments on a land case.

In a four-page petition, Aquaculture firm has asked the court to hear its arguments on a land case.

The firm has asked the court to hear its arguments on a land case.

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Aquaculture firm has asked the court to hear its arguments on a land case.

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## Religious group supports

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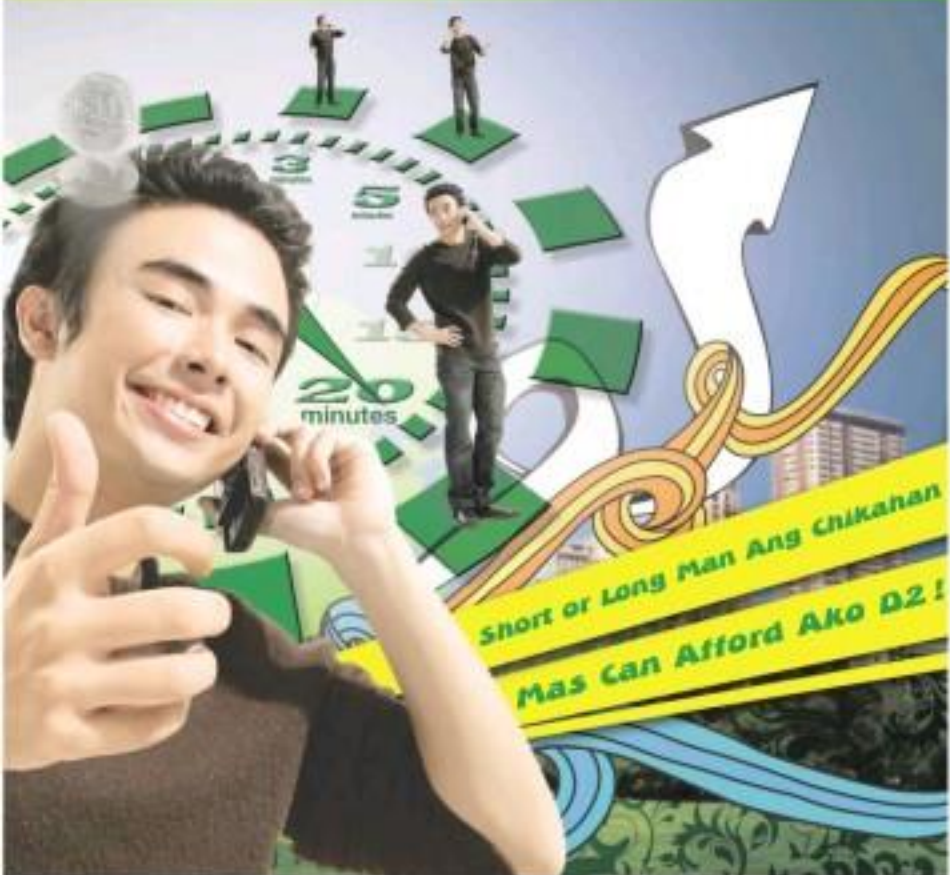
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# Vegetables, hope grow side by side in streetchildren's village

By Mike Morales

LOOKER, CAN WEALTH BE DE-  
scribing

This is a corny truism in the case of Tuley Foundation Inc., a non-governmental organization that provides the street kids in Guatemala (food, clothing, shelter) plus education to over 100 kids housed in a sprawling 4.5 hectare compound in Antigua, Guatemala, the well-maintained facilities of the foundation's Tuley de Don Bruce streetchildren village tells the fact that it is in need of donations.

From its classrooms for students to the first rows of school buildings, the village feels and looks like an exclusive school,

no observation that Fr. Rudy Evangelista, Tuley founder, says he has heard quite often. He quickly responds, however, with a laugh that Tuley is probably the only place in Guatemala—home to exclusive villages like Ayuda Manos—that is "not for the poor."

The school grounds are surprisingly neat, largely in part to its exclusive habit of picking up its own trash.

"If you pick up 30 pieces of trash during your stay here, then that's already bad for us," Evangelista tells the business.

In the past 15 years more he founded Tuley, Evangelista says that he has depended primarily on the kindness of people in



THE CHURCH in the village

PHOTO BY MIKE MORALES

to keep the center going.

"The money I have brought over is spent the whole week," he candidly admits.

But experience has taught him that people are inherently good and, if approached at the right time, will willingly help out to whatever way they can.

"You don't have learned anything here is that people from all walks of life want to help," Evangelista says. "They want to help but each has his own time (in the doing) for many reasons."

Founded in 1993, Tuley was named in Tuley de Don Bruce named in Miami City until it moved in 2001 to Antigua.

According to Evangelista, they used about \$500,000 to \$1,000,000 a day to feed the 600 children staying at the center. The more donations to the village don't come in as regular basis, he has devised other ways to ensure that its operations won't be disrupted.

Recently he turned into backyard farming, planting beans, cherry tomatoes and other vegetables with the help of some of the children in green houses built by the Department of Agriculture in the center's compound.

The produce can then be sold and used to fund the center. But instead of using chem-

ical fertilizers, Evangelista says they use vermicompost, a fertilizer created by a type of earthworm called the African Night Crawler.

As he explains it, the waste food on garbage, serving it to a duck, will kill, whereas vermicompost that can be used to fertilize.

"The children were fascinated, they were amazed after the worms turned the garbage into fertilizer," Evangelista recalls.

Vermicomposting, along with other urban organic farming techniques, was introduced to the foundation by the Rotary Club of Miami-Las Americas located in its province, Miami.

Donor contributions. The club also provided funding for the establishment of the greenhouse, the installation of irrigation pipes and the procurement of seedlings, among other things.

With the help of the club, the foundation is set to receive a \$25,000 grant from Rotary International which will be used to build more greenhouses as well as the operations of the organic farm.

With the additional money coming from their urban organic farms, they maintain its open children off the street and see them lead productive citizens with bright hopes for a bright future.



CHILD OF Tuley's greenhouse in which organic vegetables are grown.

## QC landmarks highlight underpass photo exhibit

By John M. Aurelio

THERE ARE NO BILLBOARDS OR pictures of models advertising products on the walls of the underpass in front of the Queen's City Hall.

Instead, what are on display are old, faded photographs of several of the city's famous landmarks, some of which are still standing today.

Two women making their way through the underpass stop to look at one of the pictures showing a circular-shaped building surrounded by a crowd.

One of them lets out a gasp when she recognizes the building. "Gosh, just say it's like an old day!"

The picture is one of 100 photographs displayed in the underpass which the city government has declared a "time capsule of history."

Greg Bernal, head of the Queen's City Public Affairs and Information Services Office which organized the exhibit, said the pictures would be on display indefinitely to make passersby more aware of the city's rich history.

He pointed out that most residents of the city today are from far-off provinces and are not familiar with how the city looked like before progress changed its landscape.

"From the young people most likely don't have access of how some areas looked like before," Bernal said the location at the exhibit looking back last year.

Part of the display is devoted to President Manuel L. Quezon, after whom the city was named. Quezon also served as its office in charge in 1948.

Some of the photographs showing the former President came from his family's personal collection, and the Queen's City government, the President's grandson, the himself pictures some of the photos on display, he added.

"I like the location in particular, the placement, because people coming

from Quezon Memorial Circle will see the pictures and see what their city was like a long time ago," he explained.

Mayor Indarone Belmonte Jr., who presided the event, said the exhibit is just one of several places they have in developing the Quezon Memorial Circle which was recently turned over to the state of the city government.

"If we put up this exhibit inside a room at City Hall, or an enclosed place, then only a few people would see it. As it is here, many people can appreciate the history. They will also notice our underpass," he said with a laugh.

Belmonte added that they were



Arce and Belmonte and B. Rodriguez Jr. to them.

One photograph showed a herd of carabao walking on a city street that would later be named Highway 14, or today is it called today. Another showed a heavily lighted and grand for children. The capture underfoot identified it as the old Salcedo Villavieja Plaza behind the University of the Philippines campus in Diliman, Quezon City.

"People at that time would bequeath the Salcedo Plaza because it had a swimming pool and picnic grounds where people found their place to go to, it deteriorated from lack of use," Belmonte explained.

The exhibit also features newer photographs, mostly of other landmarks like the Iglesia de Cristo central

temple, the new City Hall facade and the old site of the Peoples Temple.

There are also "historical" pictures like the proposed dig ground in Pasay, the Quezon Bridge which is under going construction at the City Hall complex, and a development plan for the Murphy Station in Cebu.

"The development program we have now and in the future is part of Quezon's vision for the city in fact, I say we're behind by 30 years," said Gregorio Magar, former city planning head.

For Arce, the exhibit is a way of sharing the former President's dreams with today's generation.

"These plans cannot be a private legacy anymore, it belongs to everyone and can be used as a guide," he said.

## 'Buling-Buling' dance is Jan. 14 festival highlight

By Joanne L. Andrade

NOT EVERYONE KNOWS THAT THE City of Manila has its own traditional dance.

Called "Buling-Buling," the dance is known as the 10th, 11th and 12th centuries in Manila from being pioneered by Spanish missionaries.

The dance is composed of two basic steps with the dancers moving from side to side and gracefully moving their hands in time to the music. It looks like waltz stand with the performance by male and female dancers clad in colorful Philippine dresses.

### Beautiful dance

The name is taken from "Buling-Buling" which means beautiful in the language, a word which derives to the low. Bulul is an apt description of the dance.

Buling-Buling will be performed on Jan. 14 during the city's 40th cultural festival, the Buling-Buling Festival, which officials of the Quezon City, Buling-Buling Festival Committee said is the city's first local celebration.

"It is a long time coming," both Bernal said, adding that the City of Manila had been having an official dance until the passage of City Ordinance 100.

Bernal, a former Manila councilor, was instrumental in the approval of the proposed law adopting Buling-Buling as the city's traditional dance.

He added that this year's celebration is more significant with the participation of the Iglesia Filipina Independiente and Catholic churches in Pasay.

The occasion of the 10th, 11th and 12th centuries and showed them "unity in diversity," as both recognized the role of the "Cebu House" in saving Pasay.

### Lot of volunteers

As the legend goes, some time in the 10th, the Spanish government decided to colonize and on Pasay which it had identified as the "lot of more colonies."

As the Spanish soldiers trained all their men in the colonies, they were to study one child playing in their midst.

The Spaniards knew that the 10th, 11th and 12th centuries were under the protection of the Child Jesus, known that they would have been's wish which they attack the city, the soldiers did not see their enemies.



THE OLD QUEZON CITY HALL









## IN THIS ISSUE

- Sending OFWs bits of home in a can /B2
- Davao claims Asia's fastest zip line/B3

Business Features Editor Margie Quinsig-Explos

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SHOPPING CENTER

# Boom amid gloom

## Retail industry hopes for best, prepares for worst in 2009

By Tina Arnes-Gonzales

RETAIL COMPANIES AROUND THE WORLD would like nothing more than to erase 2008 from their memory.

Who could really blame them when the global financial crisis has forced consumers to shop their cash funds in their wallets for fear that they could lose their jobs in their homes. The slump in the financial and automotive sectors in the United States.

Especially for the Philippines, it already went through a financial crisis of its own a decade ago when the Asian currency crisis caused a major adjustment in the financial and retail sectors in the region. As such, it includes an average of 10 or 12% to 15% to the economy is expected to grow by at least 3.5 percent this year, even with the global economic downturn.

### Optimistic

But, the growth will be slower than initially expected but it is a growth nonetheless. In while retail companies have been hit hard by the downturn, they are still optimistic that they would ride on that growth, which is much higher than what is expected in the more developed countries in North America and Europe.

According to Francisco Yu, AFP's marketing of Retail's International Inc., it is likely that the retail industry will go through a "moderate downturn" this year, but completely not to the extent of the US industry, some of which has experienced a sharp decline. Cebu-based retail giant Cebuana Luna had already filed for bankruptcy protection.

Governments also show that the second quarter of 2008 saw the retail industry growing at only 4.3 percent, far below the 2007 growth of 10 percent. Beyond Christmas, retail expenditure also grew in the second quarter by only 3.4 percent. Christmas shopping, however, is expected to yield a better growth, as seen in the last 10 years, indicating some optimism of hope for the industry.

"In fact, there are certain opportunities that are evident in our own domestic situation. One such opportunity is the expected retail boom, as most of those who belong to the higher income segments. This means that instead of doing shopping in places like Hong Kong, Singapore, or the United States, many retail Filipinos will be doing their shopping locally. Retailers who are positioned to serve this segment will have a fair share with it," Yu says in an interview.

Johnnie C. Go, general manager of the Robinsons Department Store, also says that the Philippine retail industry has been more resilient than most since the financial crisis. It is an expected rebound year and the appliance retailers are pulling out all the stops to coax the consumer to part with his bank-ruined cash.



**NATIONAL**  
Business  
will keep it  
down with  
its  
January 11  
2009.

check list to go home.

This will be the first time for the retail industry in the United States to see a decline in sales. The retail industry is expected to see a decline in sales of about half of total retail sales in the Philippines of over \$12 billion. US retail sales, meanwhile, continue to grow 13 percent of the country's gross domestic product.

"Despite the downturn of OFWs and the retail industry will be significantly affected by the economy," Go says.

In preparation for this scenario, Go says Robinsons Department Store will aggressively pursue for more Christmas sales with offer low value for money items and consumers will be able to buy budget-conscious items.

### Basic necessities

The regional retail and luxury products such as apparel, shoes and cosmetics to be allowed while food and grocery sectors should continue to do so as spending will be limited to basic necessities.

But despite the expected slowdown, Go says Robinsons Department Store will continue to expand this year, particularly in key cities outside the capital of Metro Manila, saying that there is still a huge market for the department store in these areas.

According to the changing spending situation will be the key to success in an expected rebound year and the appliance retailers are pulling out all the stops to coax the consumer to part with his bank-ruined cash.

### Spending cuts

According to Ryan Derricks T. Si, general manager of Robinsons Appliances, 2008 has been a difficult

year at retail assessment included in the economic crisis by cutting down on their spending. Personally, you do not see the appliance manufacturers adjusting to the phenomenon by modifying their product line and pricing strategies.

### Excess inventory

"Significant portions of their product lines were returned to reduce inventory and we have done investments in line with technology with specific technologies. These units also have been increasingly aggressive pricing strategies to ensure a bigger market share. We are able to use these developments to our advantage to increase our sales and customer satisfaction," Si says.

Si says, Si says Robinsons Appliances will respond to the more difficult operating environment by introducing its supply chain and cutting back on its own expenses without sacrificing service standards.

In 2009, Robinsons Appliances sees opportunities in the mobile or digital goods to move Filipinos only to technology for their home and office needs.

"Our customers are increasingly busy people, especially during these tough times and they want to see more products that increase their productivity and mobility," Si says. "In terms of geography, we see a lot of potential in locations outside the metropolis. We will be opening a great number of stores south of Manila. Manila and we feel that this decision will allow more of the populace to experience the store and the products that we are offering."

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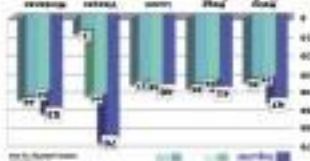
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INQUIRER











continue on page 211

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## Is she right in leaving her womanizing husband?

## Tom and Jerry on PAL's Junior Jetsetter kits

### DEAR EMILY

I would like to share my experience as wife of more than 20 years. Others might have gone through the same experience, might have wanted to leave their husband's womanizing ways.

Because of this mistake, my husband looked upon me as the one who had the chance to reconcile. He knows it is wrong but she continues to do what was wrong. He doesn't let her go. He's married to her for 20 years. He's married to her for 20 years. He's married to her for 20 years.

Before our separation, my husband had always compared me to his lover who made him feel young, happy and carefree, while I was old, boring. He'd simply and start a fight with me. Because of this, I chose to move on, rather than hang on to him who chose

### EMILY'S POST

Emily  
J. Murray



to leave over us. His family who continued to have unbearable lives.

I've already lived through chaos and suffering. Was I right to let him go? Should I give myself a chance, find a new chapter of life?

WRITE IN PAL

You're absolutely right to move on. Why be miserable with this creep of a husband when he has already started on and has about

done you and your family? That's the height of madness!

Thank down the table all your heart and pain. Breathe deeply and rationally when possible. Remember your own mind. Nobody can help you leave the past, except you.

It's a job! Always remind him much better off you are without him. Give yourself more credit by affirming that nobody who's not your own doesn't deserve you. And never forget that what goes around, comes around.

E-mail the author at [emuray@pal.com.ph](mailto:emuray@pal.com.ph). Submit 150-200 words your letters to [pal.com.ph](mailto:pal.com.ph) and have to be written in English. E-mail the author at [emuray@pal.com.ph](mailto:emuray@pal.com.ph). Submit 150-200 words your letters to [pal.com.ph](mailto:pal.com.ph) and have to be written in English. E-mail the author at [emuray@pal.com.ph](mailto:emuray@pal.com.ph). Submit 150-200 words your letters to [pal.com.ph](mailto:pal.com.ph) and have to be written in English.

**TRAVELING JETSETTER** (PAL) has joined hands with Marvel's *Tom and Jerry* to give the world's most famous cat-and-mouse duo, Tom and Jerry, on PAL's Junior Jetsetter kits this year.

Jetsetter kits are given to children 5-11 years old in North America and Australia.

Angela, Lou, Agnes, Nibbles, Tweedledee, Tuffy and Melba.

The kits are for outdoor and indoor use. The outdoor kit has a pillow and orange showering bag, and the indoor kit has a light blue and orange showering bag with a matching case.



### Shepherd's Voice goes digital

#### SHEPHERD'S VOICE RADIO AND TELEVISION FOUNDATION

Shepherd's Voice Radio and Television Foundation, Inc. (SVF) is a non-profit organization that provides a platform for the voices of the poor. The foundation's "Today with the Lord" program is broadcast on radio and television. The foundation's "Today with the Lord" program is broadcast on radio and television. The foundation's "Today with the Lord" program is broadcast on radio and television.

#### Mail clearance sale

The Little Free Store will hold a mail clearance sale on Jan. 10, 11, 12 and 13. Exchange your \$200 single or unreturned purchase receipts during the sale for a \$100 coupon. The "Sheep's Voice" is a \$100 coupon. The "Sheep's Voice" is a \$100 coupon. The "Sheep's Voice" is a \$100 coupon.

#### GOINGS ON

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# Q

How do you nurture your children's dreams?

# A

Give them fertile ground for their imagination to bear fruit.

There's nothing like orchard living to spark a child's creativity—viewing the world from treetops or discovering your first firefly. Ayala Westgrove Heights' rolling terrain and verdant surroundings provide the setting for a childhood full of stories. Moments turn into memories within a growing community that nurtures shared passions and life-long friendships. Rooted in the heritage of Ayala Alabang, you gain peace of mind with a solid investment and village management you can rely on. Located within Silang, Cavite—a developing urban center—Ayala Westgrove Heights is the perfect environment to raise a family.

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HEIGHTS



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CINEMA ACCESS 635-5555

# MOVIEWORLD

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMA MOVIE GUIDE

www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

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**GALLERIA** (100-1000)

1 TWILIGHT	8 AND TANGING INA NYONG LAHAT
2 TRANSPORTER 3	7 THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL
3 THE SPIRIT	9 SNAKE, RATTLE AND ROLL X
4 THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON	6 DESPERADOS 2
5 BEDTIME STORIES	10 DRILL BUNOL

**EMMITA** (100-1000)

1 BEDTIME STORIES

2 TRANSPORTER 3	6 DESPERADOS 2
3 THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON	8 AND TANGING INA NYONG LAHAT
4 THE SPIRIT	9 SNAKE, RATTLE AND ROLL X
5 DRILL BUNOL	7 THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL

**METRO EAST** (100-1000)

1 DRILL BUNOL	3 DESPERADOS 2
2 THE SPIRIT	6 THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON
3 AND TANGING INA NYONG LAHAT	7 BEDTIME STORIES
4 TRANSPORTER 3	8 SNAKE, RATTLE AND ROLL X

**NOVALICHES** (100-1000)

1 DRILL BUNOL	6 THE SPIRIT
2 BEDTIME STORIES	8 TRANSPORTER 3
3 THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON	5 AND TANGING INA NYONG LAHAT

**PIONEER** (100-1000)

1 THE SPIRIT	3 BEDTIME STORIES
2 TRANSPORTER 3	4 THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON

**The Perfect Gift**

All YEAR ROUND

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD

prepaid card

Your Special Occasions for making purchases!

**STA. ROSA** (100-1000)

**LIPA** (100-1000)

1 THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON	1 THE SPIRIT
2 BEDTIME STORIES	3 BEDTIME STORIES
3 AND TANGING INA NYONG LAHAT	2 AND TANGING INA NYONG LAHAT
4 DRILL BUNOL	6 DESPERADOS 2
5 THE SPIRIT	8 SNAKE, RATTLE AND ROLL X

**DASMARINAS** (100-1000)

**IMUS** (100-1000)

1 SNAKE, RATTLE AND ROLL X	1 DRILL BUNOL
2 BEDTIME STORIES	2 AND TANGING INA NYONG LAHAT
3 AND TANGING INA NYONG LAHAT	3 THE SPIRIT
4 THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON	4 TRANSPORTER 3
	5 BEDTIME STORIES

**ANGELES** (100-1000)

1 THE SPIRIT	3 DRILL BUNOL
2 AND TANGING INA NYONG LAHAT	6 BEDTIME STORIES

**STARHILLS** (100-1000)

1 DESPERADOS 2	4 BEDTIME STORIES
2 THE SPIRIT	8 AND TANGING INA NYONG LAHAT
3 SNAKE, RATTLE AND ROLL X	6 DRILL BUNOL

**BAGUIO** (100-1000)

**IGLOO** (100-1000)

1 THE SPIRIT	1 BEDTIME STORIES
2 AND TANGING INA NYONG LAHAT	2 AND TANGING INA NYONG LAHAT
3 BEDTIME STORIES	3 THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON
4 TWILIGHT	8 SNAKE, RATTLE AND ROLL X
5 SNAKE, RATTLE AND ROLL X	7 TWILIGHT
6 THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL	6 THE SPIRIT

# MOVIEWORLD

can be your Cinema

We can be your venue for advance screenings, private film viewings, corporate and school events and other organizational functions.

For more information, contact the Marketing Services Department at 635-5555 (ext. 233 and 240)

**SM CINEMA** **movietime**

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**BENJAMIN BUTTON**

**NOW SHOWING AT SM CINEMAS**

**METRO MANILA**

**RESERVED SEATS NOW AVAILABLE**

IMAX	FODIUM	CINEMA 1
THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL SEA MONSTER DEEP SEA DINOSAURS	BEDTIME STORIES CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON LATE SCREENINGS	BEDTIME STORIES (2D)
<b>SEA MONSTER</b> (100-1000) 1 SEA MONSTER 2 SEA MONSTER 3 SEA MONSTER 4 SEA MONSTER 5 SEA MONSTER 6 SEA MONSTER 7 SEA MONSTER 8 SEA MONSTER 9 SEA MONSTER 10 SEA MONSTER	<b>BEDTIME STORIES</b> (100-1000) 1 BEDTIME STORIES 2 BEDTIME STORIES 3 BEDTIME STORIES 4 BEDTIME STORIES 5 BEDTIME STORIES 6 BEDTIME STORIES 7 BEDTIME STORIES 8 BEDTIME STORIES 9 BEDTIME STORIES 10 BEDTIME STORIES	<b>BEDTIME STORIES (2D)</b> (100-1000) 1 BEDTIME STORIES 2 BEDTIME STORIES 3 BEDTIME STORIES 4 BEDTIME STORIES 5 BEDTIME STORIES 6 BEDTIME STORIES 7 BEDTIME STORIES 8 BEDTIME STORIES 9 BEDTIME STORIES 10 BEDTIME STORIES

**LUZON**

ANGEL CITY	ANGEL CITY	ANGEL CITY
<b>ANGEL CITY</b> (100-1000) 1 ANGEL CITY 2 ANGEL CITY 3 ANGEL CITY 4 ANGEL CITY 5 ANGEL CITY 6 ANGEL CITY 7 ANGEL CITY 8 ANGEL CITY 9 ANGEL CITY 10 ANGEL CITY	<b>ANGEL CITY</b> (100-1000) 1 ANGEL CITY 2 ANGEL CITY 3 ANGEL CITY 4 ANGEL CITY 5 ANGEL CITY 6 ANGEL CITY 7 ANGEL CITY 8 ANGEL CITY 9 ANGEL CITY 10 ANGEL CITY	<b>ANGEL CITY</b> (100-1000) 1 ANGEL CITY 2 ANGEL CITY 3 ANGEL CITY 4 ANGEL CITY 5 ANGEL CITY 6 ANGEL CITY 7 ANGEL CITY 8 ANGEL CITY 9 ANGEL CITY 10 ANGEL CITY

**VISAYAS - MINDANAO**

ANGEL CITY	ANGEL CITY	ANGEL CITY
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## Mang Domeng's laboratory

TOMORROW, THE "LABTODOS" TEAM OF Jay Tane visits mang breeding, who champions animals in a small laboratory located in the middle of a squatter's compound in Manila. He sells them to artwork and scientists for a living.

The documentary also on AMM from Monday after the late night newscast "Nada".

## Engaged gorilla

Tonight on "Spring in Specie: Gorilla On The Beach," actress Sandra Pineda joins singer-songwriter's husband in search of the rare mountain gorilla.

Reader's guide is animal report and commentary Jack Hines.

The show premiere on the National Planet tonight at 8 p.m. and tomorrow at 1 a.m. and 11 a.m.

## Vital statistics

Discovery Channel establishes a site of high-tech graphics and live action to describe the body's vital statistics and to illustrate what makes people move, think and grow in the five-part series "Body to Bodyline."

Episodes air every Friday at 7 p.m., with reruns on Saturday at 1 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Cuck!

MATTAL: Portman and Jack Hines

**ATRCB PG-13** (Parents Strongly Cautioned) Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

**Katie HUDSON** **Kerrie HATHAWAY**

Two best friends become wedding rivals.

**Bride WARS**

Open January 11 Thursday

**MURPHY PG-13** (Parents Strongly Cautioned) Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

**JIM CARREY**

**YES**

YES MIN  
Jan. 11, 2009

**NOW SHOWING**

**GOLDEN GLOBE NOMINATIONS**

**BEST PICTURE**

**BEST ACTOR** BRAD PITT

**BEST DIRECTOR** DAVID FINCHER

**BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR** ERIC ROTH

**BEST ORIGINAL SOUND** ALEXANDRE DESPLAT

BRAD PITT CATE BLANCHETT

**The Curious Case of BENJAMIN BUTTON**

Now on DVD & Blu-ray

AT THE CINEMAS				
<p>Showing your movie listings throughout Metro Manila. Metro Manila is the only city in the Philippines with a movie theater in every neighborhood. For more information, call 729-1111.</p>				
<b>GLORietta 1</b>	1. BESTMAN STORIES	2. THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON	3. SPIRIT	4. TRANSPORTER 3
<b>GLORietta 4</b>	1. SPIRIT	2. TRANSPORTER 3	3. THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON	4. SPIRIT
<b>GREENBELT 1</b>	1. BESTMAN STORIES	2. THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON	3. SPIRIT	4. TRANSPORTER 3
<b>GREENBELT 2</b>	1. SPIRIT	2. TRANSPORTER 3	3. THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON	4. SPIRIT
<b>ALABANG TOWN CENTER</b>	1. SPIRIT	2. TRANSPORTER 3	3. THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON	4. SPIRIT
<b>WORLD CENTER 1</b>	1. SPIRIT	2. TRANSPORTER 3	3. THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON	4. SPIRIT
<b>MANAO 11</b>	1. SPIRIT	2. TRANSPORTER 3	3. THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON	4. SPIRIT
<b>MANAO 11</b>	1. SPIRIT	2. TRANSPORTER 3	3. THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON	4. SPIRIT
<b>TRINOMA</b>	1. SPIRIT	2. TRANSPORTER 3	3. THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON	4. SPIRIT

**AT THE MALLS**

**GLORietta** **Greenbelt** **Town Center** **Alabang Town Center** **World Center** **Manao 11** **Trinoma**

Now on DVD & Blu-ray

**New Year BLOWOUT!**

Buy 4 tickets of any movie in a single purchase within the promo duration at Glorietta 4 and Greenbelt 1 & 3 cinemas, and get a chance to win a new watch, free makeover or a free trip to Busuanga. Prizes good for 100!

**glorietta GREENBELT**

Let's all celebrate 2009 with a big bang!

**regine velasquez**

**regine velasquez Live!**

January 18, 2009

Activity Center, 6pm

Watch Regine Velasquez Live at the Activity Center as she performs songs from her latest album, *LOVE MY*

**UP**

'Localized' TV challenges employ Pinoy psychology

VIEWFINDER

Nestor L. Torre



ASIDE FROM ORIGINATING THEIR own productions, our major networks have been coming up with Filipino versions of US TV challenges, like "Survivor" and "True Blood." We've watched both "localized" shows and

found interesting similarities to, and differences from, the American originals.

To start with the similarities, the homegrown "Survivor" subjects in contestants to some harrowing challenges

that test physical and psychological endurance limits. In the competitive environment, surprisingly enough, the Filipino answer "bach manok" are given more TV time than those of their American counterparts.

Thus, we get to know the Filipino contestants much more than the US show's contestants. This is a story most that shows that the homegrown production is aware of the fact that the Filipino need to view life in a more personal and subjective way than Americans do. Pinoy are more aware of hidden agendas, suspect motives and cliques, who's the enemy and who's the underdog, and we respond to these perceptions emotional terms.

Thus, the Filipino version of "Survivor" featured mostly young and relatively conservative, but it also included a few mature players. Initially they looked like more losers and underdogs, but the contest they provided brought together people from the 18-year respect for "older" people, the wisdom of the elderly etc.

In fact, a "Survivor" contestant emerged all the way to the challenge finale—and despite his incoherent style of analysis psychology Pinoy-style.

Interestingly, the latest US version of "Survivor" has come up with a "bach manok" winner who is in his 50s, but "Survivor" story?

Pinoy viewers' penchant for denying more program time to backstab and other personal and emotional factors is a staple system in the homegrown version. Since the competitive style of analysis psychology Pinoy-style.

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SHANG CINEPLEX movie listings for Bedtime Stories, Benjamin Button, The Spirit, and Transporter 3.

POWER PLANT KENAMA movie listings for Curious Case of Benjamin Button, Bedtime Stories, and The Spirit.



Adam Sandler acts like a clown in "Bedtime Stories."

OPENS JANUARY 21 R-13 STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS OF AGE AND ABOVE

ABANDONED movie poster and details.

GREENHILLS CINEMAS movie listings for The Green Hornet, Promenade, and Watch Scratch & Match.



Angelina Jolie in "Changeling."

M M T A MOVIE GUIDE

Table with movie listings for various theaters including Cinemas, Regency, and others.

Various movie advertisements including Gateway, Cinemas, and others.

2009 Binibining Pilipinas Beauty Pageant advertisement featuring contestants.

Home Free Home and Grand Clearance Sale advertisements.

Advertisement for a game or puzzle titled 'Answer to Sunday Crossword'.





At an old-fashioned luncheon, Michael O'Connell, a 30-year-old New York City resident, who wrote the "Kaiser" script inside the word "hot" in the key in opening online applications.

So O'Connell is, undoubtedly, one successful business that pay off all the time. He is a man, a millionaire, the level of his own life (Forbes).

After that, O'Connell already knows the answer "yes" men, including his and little reason in finding his place.

He is a man, a millionaire, the level of his own life (Forbes).

He is a man, a millionaire, the level of his own life (Forbes).